EDEN MUSEE-8-Vaudeville. EMPIRE THEATRE—S:15—John-a-Dreams.

FINE ARTS BUILDING, 215 West 57th-st.—Day and evening—Annual Exhibition Society American Artists. FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE-8:10-His Wife's Father.

GARDEN THEATRE S Trilby. HARLEM OPERA HOUSE-S:15-A Way to Win HERALD SQUARE THEATRE-8:15-Pud6'n Head Wil-

HOYT'S THEATRE-8:30 The Foundling IRVING PLACE THEATRE-8:15-Liebe von Heut. KOSTER & BIAL'S-8:30 Vaudeville. LYCEUM THEATRE-8:30 Fortune. MADISON SQLARE GARDEN-2-S-Circus.
MANHATTAN FIELD-3:30-Baseball.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE-S-Les Huguenots.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN-Day and evening-76th Annual Exhibition. PALMER'S-8:15-Little Christopher. PASTOR'S 2-8-Vaudeville.

PROCTOR'S-10 a. m. to 10:30 p. m.-Vaudeville.

STANDARD THEATRE-S:30-Too Much Johnson. STAR THEATRE-S:15-The Old Homestead E3 4TH AVE.-9:30 a. m. to 6 p. m.-Loan Exhibition

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# New-York Daily Tribune

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1895.

## FOURTEEN PAGES.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

places in Italy and Austria; several persons were killed at Laibach, Austria. ==== A Cuban insurgent band was defeated by Spanish troops on Saturday near Palma Miros; General Campos has been strongly signed by Edward Lauterbach in Saturday near Palma Miros; General Campos has been strongly signed by Edward Lauterbach in "veyed with vanishing visions." The plain truth left Porto Rico for Cuba. —— A fort near Dhyr was stormed by the British, and the garrison, including Umra Khan's brother, was captured; Kelly has relieved the British garrison at

informed England that the bombardment of Grevtown or the landing of troops on Nicaraguan soll will be considered unfriendly to the interests of he would call up the Bipartisan Police bill and the Police Reorganization bill in the Senate to-day. - Heavy floods, greatly impeding railroad traffic, were reported in the New-England States, especially New-Hampshire and Vermont.

City and Suburban.-Mayor Strong appointed Robert J. Wright and John P. Faure Commissioners of Charities and Correction; Miss Ellen Collins was made School Inspector, === The annual election of the Tammany Society resulted in a complete victory for the Croker element. One juror was secured as the result of the first day's efforts in the trial of Inspector McLaughlin on charges of bribery. - Mrs. Paran Stevens's will was filed for probate. \_\_\_\_ Kerosene was found on the staits of a tenement-house in West Nineteenth-st., where fire had broken out. "Moke" Murray was convicted of grand larceny in the Court of General Sessions. - The annual pans festival of the St. Nicholas Society was held. Stocks continue to advance; bull sentiment

The Weather.-Forecast for to-day: Cloudy

The North River pier (old No. 40), which has been an object of general interest for three or four days past, was leased by auction yesterday for three years at \$38,000 a year-the price which the Norwich Line has been paying, but of which only little more than half went into the city's treasury. The company that has been pocketing \$18,000 yearly out of this city property is trying hard to hold on to its alleged rights and actual profits, but the Dock Commissioners peremptorily refused to listen to its representative when the sale was in progress. No other case of the same kind has yet been brought to light by the Commissioners' inquiries, but it would be strange if this should prove to stand by itself. Such an abuse is not likely to flourish in one spot only.

According to the latest reports from Albany, \$10,000 more has been raised to defray the "legal expenses" of defeating the Police Magistrates bill, making a total of \$16,000 or \$17,000 for that purpose. "Legal expenses" in opposition to reform legislation seem to be heavy this year. Where the \$10,000 came from is not stated, but as some of the Police Justices found it hard work to give up \$500 apiece before, it does not seem possible that the entire fund was derived from that source. It is well to recall at this juncture because votes against it are purchased, or words

the securing of a jury will take considerable time, and that it is the purpose of the defence to exclude from the jury-box any one even remotely connected with the reform movement which swept over the city with tidal-wave force last fall. District-Attorney Fellows is to be assisted in managing the trial by Messrs. Fox and Rollins, the special counsel who guided the inquiries of the Extraordinary Grand Jury, and it is hoped and expected that there will be an exceptionally vigorous prosecution of this impor-

"Mayor Strong has done wisely not to delay the reorganization of the Charities Department. Yesterday he removed Commissioners Sheehy and Simmons, and appointed in their places Robert J. Wright and John P. Faure. Both are successful business men, interested in public affairs, and are well fitted to introduce business methods in a department in which such methods have long been conspicuous by their absence. Mr. Faure possesses peculiar qualifications for earing for the city's paupers and insane, since he has been active in charitable work for years, especially in connection with that admirable institution, St. John's Guild. That he is a man of great public spirit is shown by the part which he took in the work of the Committee of Seventy last fall and winter. Mr. Faure is classed as a Reform Democrat, while Mr. Wright is a Reform Republican. They should lose no time in reforming the Charities Department from centre to circumference.

Yesterday afforded the last opportunity for compliance with the law requiring the filing of income tax returns by April 15, and the collectors' offices were kept open long after the usual hour for closing in order to accommodate those who were behindhand. It appears that comparatively few returns were made before the Supreme Court rendered its decision a week ago, while since then they have come in with a rush. The actual collection of the tax will not begin for two months or more; meantime attention will be given to delinquents, whether corporations or individuals, if any such there are. Without doubt a considerable number of both have attempted to escape this novel impost, and they will watch with unaccustomed interest the further efforts to have the law declared unconstitutional.

#### BY WHOSE AUTHORITY?

On the 3d of April The Tribune published an address to the Republican voters of this State setting forth very briefly, and without the slightest tinge of criticism of any man or set of men, the existing political conditions in this city, and the need of legislation by a Republican Legislatte to redeem the promises of municipal reform made by the Republican party. The signers of the address were extremely cautious. They did not enter into discussion or argument concerning the details of pending bills about which there were differences of opinion. They blamed no one for the delays of which this community had) become impatient. In the most simple, straightforward way they recited the terms upon which Mayor Strong received his nomination, quoting the platform on which he stood and his own letter of acceptance, and thereon asked the Republicans of the State to use their influence with their own representatives in the Legislature the United States, redeemable in gold, can be to induce them to take up and act upon the re- debased and redundant. Indeed, the strongest form bills which had been pending for three argument for the Ocala kind of money, loaned months. That was all. There was not a line or directly by Government on farms and crops, is most quarrelsome mischief-maker could hang the without limit leaned by State banks. shadow of a pretext for complaint.

may be added, to the amazement and disgust of ers of forty years' experience are asked to choose Foreign.—Earthquake shocks were felt in many of this county, an "Address to the Republicans safe, the wage-earner is apt to answer that silver direct and spacious opening to fraud. That all of the State" in reply. We say as chalrman of coin is safer and less likely to degenerate. Nor the County Committee because it was so pref. is he convinced by apt alliteration's artful aid we do not charge or believe; but that it has been eighteen representative Republicans, whose only offence we have stated, as "ambitious and envinothing; and if the President's notion of financial that the evidence of design seems overwhelming." Domestic.-Secretary Gresham is said to have ruln of their party"; a "plutocratic faction" "with self-assurance absolutely unequalled," a "selfishness that has never been excelled and an impudence that was simply astounding." The this country. - A petition for a rehearing of document was wildly incoherent; a passionate the income tax cases was presented to the United | outburst without the slightest provocation or the States Supreme Court, Frank Davis, one of least excuse. It was issued by Mr. Lauterbach, the convicts who escaped from Matteawan Asy- as subsequently appeared, upon his own responlum, was recaptured at Wappinger's Falls, N. Y.; sibility and without any authority whatever from a man supposed to be Perry, his companion, was the County Committee. It was such an ebulliarrested at Sing Sing. Senator Lexow gave | tion of idiotic anger that it at once defeated its notice last night in the Legislature at Albany that own purpose and covered its author with con-

tempt. But here is another circumstance connected with the Lauterbach manifesto which demands investigation at the hands of the Republican State Committee. It now appears that the document was sent abroad throughout the State to the editors of Republican newspapers and others, with the sanction and approval of Mr. Charles W. Hackett, chairman of the Republican State Committee, and B. B. Odell, ir., chairman of the Executive Committee. We are in possession of the original of the following interesting and somewhat significant document:

Republican State Committee,

Fifth Avenue Hotel, New-York, April 4, 1895. Charles W. Hackett, Chairman, Benjamin B. Odell, jr., Chairman Ex. Committee Edward B. Harper, Treasurer.

John S. Kenyon, Secretary, Reuben L. Fox, Chief Clerk. CONFIDENTIAL

To the Editor of The ..... Dear Sir: Mayor Strong, of New-York City, has with northwesterly winds. Temperature yester-day: Highest, 52 degrees; lowest, 42; average, 47%. Charles H. Murray and Michael Kerwin, the two Republican Police Commissioners. The Mayor knows that last November, for the first time in nearl, a score of years, there was a fair election and an honest count of the votes cast in the city and that this was due to the untiring efforts and absolute faithfulness of these Commissioners. More than 124,000 Republican votes were polled, honestly counted, and the Republican ticket elected—a result which would have been impossible had it not been for their tireless vigilance and steadfast fidelity The Mayor's conduct, therefore, seems a declaration of war on the Republican Organization, and a

vicious thrust at the vitals of the party itself The inclosed statement of Hon. Edward Lauter-bach, chairman of the Republican County Committee, is a faithful review of the situation and of events leading up to it. Mr. Lauterbach, as you will recall, was one of the foremost members of the recent Constitutional Convention, is a distinguished lawyer and a gentleman of spotless character. We should be pleased to see these facts in your

valuable journal, with such comments of your own as you may deem proper, under existing circum-stances. Very truly yours,

C. W. HACKETT, Chairman, B. B. ODELL, Jr.,

Chairman Executive Committee.

It is not believed that the State Committee ever authorized the circulation of the Lauterbach pronunciamento or its indorsement and approval. the rapid sequence of events. The address of the eighteen Republicans appeared on the 3d: the Lanterbach counterblast on the next day, and on the same date the latter went out with the what Mr. Root said at the recent Cooper Union | accompanying circular from Chairmen Hackett meeting; that if this bill is defeated it will be and Odell. Who authorized this use of the name of the Republican State Committee for an unprovoked and most outrageous attack upon the character and motives of some of the most eminent The trial of Inspector McLaughlin on indict. Republicans in the State? Did Mr. Hackett sign ments charging him with bribery, which was bebefore Judge Barrett in the Court of Over did they mean by it? What game are they playand Terminer yesterday, will command an un- ing on the State Committee and on the party? usual degree of attention from the people of this If they did not sign it, who signed it for them?

answer, and that they lose no time about it.

### THE PRESIDENT'S PHRASES.

These looking-glass phrases, which never bear any face save that of the one who looks at them. abound in the letter, and make it more vague, if possible, than any of the President's previous declarations. They are so many and so indefinite that even the experienced in Clevelandesque literature find it rather hard to remember that in December and January this same President scheme, then advocated gold bonds in such form as to discredit the only securities Government had power to issue, and finally turned over the National Treasury to Messrs. Rothschild and Morgan as receivers. When one recalls all this, he is lost in wonder at the adroitness of phrases so well calculated to promote forgetfulness of the President's action.

"Sound money and wholesome financial doctrines" Mr. Cleveland names as the cause to which he is attached; but so he did when he proposed to abolish the tax on circulation, with special advantages for State banks which would have broken down the National banking system. Then that was "sound money" to him; and a little later his Secretary of the Treasury, who had urged the bill to coin the seigniorage, was negotiating with the silver men regarding concessions by which the State bank scheme could be passed. Senator Jones, of Nevada, honestly thinks his speeches are devoted to "sound money and wholesome financial doctrine," and the chiefs of the Populists doubtless think the same of their fiat-money platform. Again and again the President repeats the phrase "sound money" without the slightest attempt to define it or to make anybody understand just what he does mean. When he talks of "safe and prudent financial ideas," there is nothing to show whether he is referring to State bank paper or gold monometallism, and there is not a word in the whole letter to prove whether he is antagonizing free coinage of silver or issues of fiat paper at \$50 per capita, either

If the President's amazing attitude regarding the State bank issues had not taught the country that he always speaks of his individual ideas, whatever they may be, as if they alone were 'sound and wholesome doctrine," most of his letter might be welcomed with real enthusiasm. so well does he state the case against "the illusions of a debased currency." But, under the circumstances, the President owed it to himself and to the country to make it perfectly clear what are the "financial vagaries" he condemns, because the men who urge them do not think they are vagaries, but "safe and prudent financial ideas." The farmer, for instance, when warned by the President against "debased, redundant and uncertain currency," naturally remembers that issues without limit by State banks were advocated by Mr. Cleveland only three months ago, and finds it hard to see how such notes can be safe while limited issues by word in the whole document upon which the that it would be immeasurably safer than notes

So of the appeal to wage-carners against a "de-On the following day, to the amazement of generate currency" and an "unhealthy stimulaeverybody outside of Mr. Platt's circle—and, it | tion of prices"; it loses all force when the workmany inside of it-Mr. Edward Lauterbach between standard silver dollars and wildcat State issued, as chairman of the Republican Committee | bank paper. If Mr. Cleveland thinks the latter | swindlers | This feature of the Raines bill is a safety means putting the Treasury into the hands of receivers, as the only alternative if the people will not wipe out the greenbacks and substitute State bank notes, they are immensely tempted to prefer something else.

It is with sincere and deep regret that men who care for sound finance realize how the President has thrown away his influence for good in trying to save his party. If he had not preferred an income tax and low duties even with "dishonor and perfidy" to the tariff of 1890, the revenue would now be ample. If he had not courted the Populists and State bank schemers, he could have obtained authorization for a popular loan without difficulty. If he had not chosen a secret bargain with a syndicate of banks, instead of an open offer of the same bonds to the people, his influence throughout the country for good would be immeasurably greater than it is. By his own acts, mainly for the sake of party, and unwise even when patriotic in purpose, he has made it no longer possible for him to help public opinion toward financial soundness, even when his desire to do so is most sincere.

# THE FIRE EPIDEMIC.

The epidemic of apartment-house fires in this city is similar in its manifestations to the outbreak which puzzled the Brooklyn authorities during the last six months of 1890, and there is reason to believe that it springs from the same cause. During many months in the downtown residence region of that city fires were mysteriously kindled at the foot of dumb-waiter shafts, and in some cases led to appalling fatalities. Motives of robbery, revenge, collecting insurance were canvassed, but no such suppositions could be made to fit the cases. At length some of the fires were traced to a young man of good family, who was evidently possessed by the mania of incendiarism. The attempts to burn houses finally ceased, but not until it had been shown that more than one person had caused the trouble. Mania of this kind is contagious. The excitement caused by one incendiary fire and the conjecture concerning the person who started it may have a powerful effect on a valu and unbalanced mind. That proved to be the case in Brooklyn. The desire for anonymous notoriety and the pleasure of reading in the newspapers accounts of the trouble he had caused were sufficlent to lead a man, who had no wish to steal and no malice to gratify, to go about kindling fires and to lead others to follow him.

The lesson concerning fire cranks should not be wasted on New York. It is possible that the West End confingrations have been the work of one person. But, even though he should be captured, the danger will not have passed. The mania is one of well-recognized character, and nothing is more patent to the observation than that outbreaks of this kind go in series. There are apparently sound minds in every community which easily become victims of fads. A crazy following of a political notion, an ecstatic devotion to a popular book, are mild manifestations of the same tendency which makes destructive mania contagious and leads one remarkable suicide to be followed by others which recall it, and makes the firemen expect a group of alarms after one exciting fire of incendiary origin. Great vigilance should be exercised for some time to come not only by police and firemen, but by fanitors and others in charge of flats. It is necessary to hunt down the author or authors of the fires hitherto started and also to guard against the

city. The first day's proceedings indicate that It is somewhat important to them that they make | their train. Previous experience with this class of cranks has shown them to have extreme cleverness in conducting their operations and in escaping observation afterward. Too many apartment-houses in this city are constructed President Cleveland's letter to business men of with a seeming view to render invasion easy by Chicago who invited him to a reception is a unauthorized visitors. Cellars and elevator wonder in its peculiar way. The one art of which | shafts are made accessible to tradesmen, and too he is a master is that of using phrases without a little watch is kept to see that suspicious chardefinite meaning, which every reader is liable acters do not seize this opportunity to commit to interpret according to his own private notion. depredations. In houses where there are no attendants regularly on duty, but doors are opened from the different apartments, this danger is greatest. An occupant responds to a ring and opens the door at long distance. Nobody comes up to him. He thinks it was a mistake and the visitor has gone to another apartment. Perhaps he has gone down cellar or into some vacant room to steal or burn. The only safeguard was fighting for the wildcat State banking against this is care by every tenant of a house to know what becomes of all persons he admits to the building, and not through indifference to leave them to wander. The police complain of the number of open apartment-house doors they find at night. Every such door is an invitation to the incendiary.

The character of these fires also suggests the weak point as regards safety in the majority of New-York apartment-houses. In the old houses, where fires of this kind are most to be feared, the dumb-waiter shafts are generally incased in wood, and offer most inflammable fuel and a good draught for every flame started below them It would add greatly to the safety of the dwellers in such houses if metal sheathing were placed over the bottom parts of all shafts so construct ed. Wise tenants will demand fireproof shafts Otherwise their homes are tinder boxes. Their best safety against cranks is to see that their houses have adequate protection against fire either accidental or incendiary, and then to se that the cranks are not allowed to come in.

### SPURIOUS BALLOT REFORM.

It is satisfactory to note the unanimity with which the Raines Ballot Reform bill in its present form is condemned by those who have duly considered the essential conditions of an honest vote and are sincerely desirous to secure them. Some of these persons, we think, go too far in denouncing the Raines bill as altogether objectionable and fit only to be killed, but it certainly ought not to be passed until it has been amended in one vital particular. Lieutenant-Governor Saxton, who has been a steadfast advocate of ballot reform, expresses a preference for the alphabetical arrangement of candidates' names under the titles of the offices for which they are running, instead of the party-column system proposed in the Raines bill. But Mr. Saxton sensibly acknowledges that general sentiment does not sustain him on this point, and that adherence to either view of the matter is not a test of fidelity to the principle. So far as the mere method of discrimination between parties is concerned the friends of ballot reform can properly agree to disagree, until experience has conclusively shown who is right

But there is one provision in the Raines bill which will inevitably operate to defeat the ostensible object of the measure. This is the provision authorizing an illiterate voter to take any whom he selects for the purpose into the booth to assist him in the preparation of his ballot. We have repeatedly pointed out the nature and effect of this concession, but inasmuch as the bill is to come up for passage in the Senate to-day it seems desirable, as we fear it is neces sary, to warn Republicans against it. If for constitutional or other reasons special tenderness on the Legislature to create out of their deplerable deficiencies a large opportunity for election steadily and advoitly pushed along by influences proceeding from mon who want to be able to steal elections we have not a particle of doubt. fruits of bribery would be a fool as well as a knave. A Ballot Reform bill containing such an invitation to fraud is a spurious article, which ought to be indignantly condenned by honest men of all parties, and rejected by the Legislature without hesitation or delay.

But the chapge of a few words would convert this ugly feature of the Raines bill into a comparatively unobjectionable detail. Mr. Saxton believes that illiterate voters are otherwise sufficiently protected, and his opinion is entitled to great weight; but we do not think it necessary to antagonize honest men who do not agree with him and thereby run the risk of losing everything. If the provision of the bill concerning the illiterate were so amended as to give them the privilege of demanding only the assistance of two swarn election officers belonging to different parties, its inherent capacity for evil would be almost entirely destroyed. Even then there might be instances of collusion and deliberate fraud, but they would be few. In other States such a regulation is in force, and is not considered mischievous. For such an amendment of the Raines bill honest members of the Legislature can af ford to vote, but no member can support the bill in its present form without being convicted of ignorance or suspected of treachery. The Republican majority, upon whom the responsibility of legislation rests, should constantly bear in mind the fact that in every centre of population in the State, and especially in this city, there are scoundrels ready to selze every opportunity to cheat at the polls and utilize it to the uttermost. It is absolutely certain that they will employ this suspicious provision of the Raines bill, if it is placed at their disposal, with great satisfaction and success. They already know precisely what they would do with it. Their plans ought to be frustrated by the passage of a safe and sound measure of genuine reform.

DANGERS OF THE SEA AND LAND.

With the reports of the dangers on the sea from the floating derelicts and the depredations of the bandits or train-robbers on the land one not only wonders whether 'tis prudent to get out a lifeinsurance policy before starting on a journey, but he asks why the record of 1895 surpasses the record of any previous year to date. Friday's record of the Naval Hydrographic Bureau showed that the captains of nine different vessels -most of them transatlantle passenger steamships under foreign flags -had reported upon a dangerous derellet floating directly in the transatlantic steamer lanes, about five hundred miles off the coast of Ireland. These mariners report this wreck to be a serious menace to navigation. This one instance alone proves the justice of the request by this country long ago that European nations should co-operate with the United States to rid the sea of floating dangers, but which cooperation has not yet been secured.

It was the United States Hydrographic Bureau that first made it possible to identify these wrecks and trace their drift on the ocean, with the result that many of them have been destroyed by the United States warships. The Vesuvius has been employed extensively for two years past in destroying several obstructions floating about off our own coast. Yet the British Government continues to refuse to acknowledge that derellets are any danger to navigation, and has declined to co-operate with the United States in destroying work of others who may be tempted to follow in them. It is no doubt true that some of the dere-

licts are so light that a large vessel would not be damaged by striking them, but, undoubtedly many disasters have occurred from them, and it would redound to the credit of the British Government if it should send out a vessel to destroy

the low-lying, semi-submerged wreck afloat off the Irish coast, which has been so many times

reported as dangerous. As to the other danger spoken of, the bandit, something needs to be done to destroy him. During the first three months of 1895 more trains have been held up and plundered by armed gangs than used to be done in a whole year less than a decade ago. The statistics show that 1894 was the premium year for train-robberies in the history of the country, but if 1895 keeps up the record it has already made it will distance last year's record. These desperadoes do not confine themselves, as they did a few years ago, to robbing trains in the Far West-those whose line of travel is through solitary and unguarded districts-but they have become bolder, and do not hesitate to board trains in the centre of population. Inasmuch as a civil police system can hardly be established of sufficient force to cope with the bandit gangs, the solution of the problem may be found in the suggestion of Lieutenant-General Schofield-to increase the effective strength of the Army in order to meet the military necessities. In his annual report General Schofield showed that with the present force of the Army there is only one man to fourteen square miles of territory, or one man to twenty-eight hundred of population, adding that "this is sure-"ly a very small guard to protect property and 'prevent violation of law."

It remains to be seen whether the greedy beef monopolists can look the income-tax collector in the face without blushing.

Whatever else may be done with the employes of the Court of General Sessions, it is certain that the public interest demands that a vacancy be speedily made in the office of chief clerk. This is now filled by John F. Carroll, Tammany leader of the XVIth Assembly District. So far as we know, his principal, if not sole, qualification for it is his high standing as a Wigwam man. The people, by the thumping majority they gave for Recorder Goff, showed plainly enough their desire and purpose to de-Tammanyize this court.

The new Dock Commissioners are showing a spirit worthy of all praise and encouragement, What they have already done regarding one lease is an earnest of what they may do in other matters that will no doubt receive early attention.

A serious blow has been given to "colonization" in this city by the passage of Mr. Conkling's bill providing that lodging-house proprietors shall keep such records of those lodging with them as will enable them to be readily identified. This will go far toward putting a stop to false registration and accompanying evils. Every Democrat in the Assembly voted against the Conkling measure. That circumstance speaks for itself.

Private Secretary Taurber has taken a cottage on Buzzard's Bay for the coming summer. The desire to be near that great man will doubtless persuade Mr. Cleveland to find accommodations in the same neighborhood.

Only yesterday the news was printed, on Dr. Schweninger's authority, that Prince Bismarck was in excellent health. Twenty-four hours later comes a report, which is not confirmed, but which may easily be true, that he is seriously ill and that the big reception arranged for to-day has been indefinitely postponed. The Iron Chancellor's constitution is, to outward appearance, little less enduring than his will; but his life has been one of storm and stress, he has not notably denied himself the pleasures of the table, the long series of birthday receptions cannot but have been a severe tax upon his powers, and, above all, he is old. How precarious is the hold upon life of men past eighty is seen in the case of Professor J. D. Dana, the eminent scientist and beloved instructor, who died in New-Haven on Sunday. Professor Dana was spare and active of frame, an abstemious liver, a firm and consistent believer in the benefit of exercise in the open air, and so vigorous that, long after passing his seventieth year, in leading a steep hill with more agility and less distress of breath than most of his youthful companions. Yet old age, whose inroads he had so long resisted with apparently conspicuous success, suding down of his system; seemingly in good health one day, he was dead the next. So may Bismarck die, although his physician has held out assurances that he may round out fourscore and ten years. His death now, in the midst of the remarkable celebration in honor of his eightleth birthday, would rival in dramatic interest any of the situations created by the Prince himself in effeeting the unification of the Fatherland, the achievement which won for him the undying af-

fection of his fellow-Germans.

The day may come when Senator Lexow will go into executive session with his political intelligence and generously agree to allow the State of New-York to reform her affairs in the manner in dicated by the people. That is, Mr. Lexow may do that, provided he knows how to be good to him-

## PERSONAL.

Rear-Admiral Daniel Ammen, now residing in Armendale, Md., has been elected a member of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce in recog-nition of services he rendered to California while he was stationed on the Pacific coast.

Count von Bismarck, of Berlin, who is now in St. Augustine, Fla., is a distant relative of the

"The Boston Globe" declares that Boston is still the literary centre of the universe, and in proof of the assertion gives the following list of literary peothe assertion gives the following ist of interary people who live in Boston: President Eliot, of Harvard; Thomas Bailey Aldrich, William G. Adams (Oliver Optic), Edward Atkinson, Carroll D. Wright, Alvan G. Clark, Benjamin Apthorp Gould, Professors William James, William J. Roife and Elihu Thomson; Mrs. Julia Ward Howe and Dr. S. F. Smith.

The University of Aberdeen has conferred the degree of LL. D. on Miss Jane Harrison. Twenty years ago she entered Newnham College, then in its infancy, and she has since distinguished herself by her researches into the origin of Greek vases.

Mrs. Helen Choate Prince, of Boston, whose novel,

Julian Ralph tells this story in "The Providence Journal": "The newspapers print long lists of the great men-from Charles Sumner up and downwho have stopped at the Brevoort in its time. One great man whom I once interviewed in that hotel is missed from the list. He was a Baron de Rothschild, and he stopped there in 1875. I was a reporter on 'The Dally Graphic,' and was considered a remarkably successful interviewer-I had to be to get my bread and butter. It was thought that I could extract any information that was wanted from any body. I was sent to talk finance to the Baron Rothschild. The fact that I knew nothing about finance and he knew little about English made no difference. It is one of the charms of modern finance and he knew little about English made no difference. It is one of the charms of modern American newspaper work that no degree of absurdity affects it at all. So I went to the Brevoort and found a very young, weak-eyed, pallid, blond Frenchman, showing in his person the worst results of the constant intermarriages in his family. In his brain I fancy that he showed a marked ability to fret over the cut of his clothing and the fashion of the moment in buttonhole bouquets. I am from "The Dally Graphic," said I. 'Ah, ze "London Graphique"; yes, I have mooch pride in zat jourrrani. 'No, I am from "The New-York Graphic," sir. 'Ah, ze "New-Yorrk Grraphique"— zat is sumsing I do not at all know. 'I have come to you to talk to me about finance. 'Fynerce, 'Pinance, sir; money, banking, the movement of gold; the borrowing power of Russia, for instance. About finance.' The prince of the cloth of gold looked worried. 'Adolphe,' he cried in French: 'come here. Tell me what is it, the fynerce!' Adolphe explained. 'Ah, said the young simpleton, delightedly, 'fenarnce' feenarnce! Out, je comprend. Ah, sir, I am vaire sorry, but se feenarnce—sat is sumsing about wheech I know mussing. I haf, sir, ze plaisir to make you my complaimong and my regrets; also to make you goodby."

## NEW AND OLD WORKS OF ART

THE COLLECTION OF THE AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION.

It is very rarely that an auction sale brings be-fore the public of New-York ancient or modera paintings as distinguished as some which are now offered by the American Art Association. That firm is about to reorganize, and prior to the changes in its membership it throws upon the market a large miscellaneous collection in which a number of productions must evoke fairly unqualified admiration. Good old masters are few and far between in our auction-rooms. The present collection contains a group of remarkable paintings by early men. At the head of this group is a masterpiece by Van Dyck, a full-length portrait of the Marchese Spinola and her daughter, painted in Genoa in 1625. The most conspicuous point of brill-lancy in the canvas lies in the wine-red dress of the Marchese, a flowing mass of sumptuous but refined color. Still more characteristic of Van Dyck than this, however, is the distinction in which the entire work is enwrapped, the stateliness with which he has bodied forth a dignified and picturesque figure. All his grace and delicacy of workmanship are visible in this painting. The touch is exquisitely fine and sure about such trying features as the elaborate ruff, and in the impression of technical mastery which it leaves the work can bear comparison with any of Van Dyck's great portraits. Some few can be recalled which surpass it in pictorial charm and in richness of color (in spite of the magnificent red robe mentioned above), but as regards the style of the master it is absolutely representative. The Van Dyck is one of a little company of old portraits; in fact, the only ancient examples from other fields are two interesting but not extraor-

dinary religious pieces by Altdorfer and Jean de Bourgogne, respectively, and a fascinating fragment of artiess narrative by Benozzo Gozzoli. This last production is a positive gift of fortune to New-York. The early Italians are not illustrated at all in American collections, save now and then by highly doubtful performances, and this naive "Marriage Scene," while obviously a minor work of the Florentine, is yet a genuine production, full of the man's curious style and the enchantment of his For this and for the plausible but not quite convincing bass-relief attributed to Matteo Civitale connoisseurs are likely to strive with eagerness at the sale. But this is alluded to in passing. To re-turn to the portraits is a pleasant necessity. They are all delightful. The association appears to have followed no specific predilection as to school, but to have fastened upon a brilliant picture whenever and wherever possible. In contrast to the haughty elegance of Van Dyck there may be studied the somewhat archaic polish of Antonio Moro, a painter who was often more flexible and suave than in the "Portrait of Margaret Roper" here d'splayed, but who was never more precise, never nore searching in his modulations of a surface than he is seen to have been in this in-stance. The Moro, indeed, is one of the treasures of the collection, a really fine illustration of valuable master. Another master of the Low Countries, Rubens, is likewise represented by an adequate portrait. The head of a monk said to have been done from the artist's confessor is in the former's most virile and accomplished manner, Rubens was at home with a type of this sort-a type which wakened sympathies underlying the courtier in him, and you feel him to be in a sin-cere mood in this portrait; the point of view was at one with the object of the painter's study, and the result is a striking unit of veracity and pict-The portrait of Marie de Medici given to François Porbus is a peculiarly attractive specimen of that painter's conventional but fin-ished art, and in a kindred vein, but more clastic and more personal, there is a feminine subject by Bronzino which revives agreeable recollections of that facile figure in Italian art. The smooth quality of this portrait enforces the judgment that Bronzino was always a shade too sleek, and the accompanying surmise that his procedure was to a great extent mechanical. Yet he is one of the numerous lesser men of the sixteenth century who survive in spite of themselves painters whose patent defects are insufficient to hide their picturesqueness and their special Renaissance atmos-From Bronzino the survey might pass to the little example of Greuze included in the show, were that a work of importance, but it may be merely mentioned in turning to the English works on the walls. There are several of the latter-a fascinating "Lady Hervy" by Sir Joshua Reynolds, a "Mrs. Beech" by Gainsborough, which atones for its cracked surfaces by ravishing color and an abundance of the painter's most fluid and individual touches, and two entirely charming heads by Lawrank of the association's possessions. They are graclous in spirit and brilliant in execution. They round out most felicitously the collection of old paintings which occupies so prominent a place in the galleries. The same catholicity which has placed Van Dyck a college class on a visit to some point of geologi- and Gozzoli side by side in this collection has ruled, difference, in the management of the modern

wing. There the association shows that it has but at least it has been broad within its and Charles Jacque is represented along with the impressionists, Raffaelli and Daubigny lie down The effect is curious, but interesting. There are some fine examples of Corot, Dupre and from their imaginative and sober naturalism to the followers. For of the followers, by the way, there are many examples. Mr. Twachtman and Mr. Weir are present to speak for the American contingent, and in one room there is a most amazing group of clever young unknowns, who were especially selected for the association, it seems, by M. Bing, the selection should have been made. These unfamiliar men cannot be taken seriously. That they are unknown makes them momentarily attractive, but their instrinsic qualities soon prove sterile, and we have no hesitation in saying that MM. Gillioux, Cottet, Frechon, Valtat and their fellows might better have been left to their Parisian millen. Here their absurdity is obvious at a glance, and does not become the more engaging, because, from time to time, as in the "Ballet Girl" of M. Leheutre, the emulation of Degas, for example, leads to a happy though superficial hit. On the whole, the leaders are enough, and of them the Association gives us full measure. Renotr, Sisley and Monet are all here in typical productions, there is an interesting portrait of Marie Colombier, by Manet, and two studies of scenes in the hundry give an impression of what Degas is like. To many Americans he is a name and nothing more. He may not seem to be very impressive to them in these two are unknown makes them momentarily attractive

are all here in typical productions, there is an interesting portrait of Marie Colombier, by Manet, and two studies of scenes in the bundry give an impression of what Degas is like. To many Americans he is a name and nothing more. He may not seem to be very impressive to them in these two canvases. He exerts in such bourgeois studies not any of the light, airy charm which belongs to his more famous ballet pictures. But the student ship observe in these pictures a very firm and sagacious management of values, and for truth to the psychological elements in the subjects it would be hard to find their equals. These are virtues, of a sort. As to beauty, as to pictorial delight. M. Degas advises you upon this occasion to go easewhere. Certainly there are many good men to whom it is possible to go, and with a clear conscience, modern to those algedy named, Inness, Davis, Harrison, Chase and Gay, are in each case in very excellent veln, and from Frenchmen like Casin, Gerome, Lepine, Jacquet, Henner and Isabey, from men like Jongkind, Pasint and Pokitinow, there is much pleasure to be derived, and they are all present in examples of work of a serious nature. M. Besnard is serious, too, but the speciator must be pardoned who finds him slightly reckless and overwrought in his vivid portraits and his deshing sketch of a Sevillan Jaico. He inspires mingled doubt and admiration.

The paintings belonging to the American Art Association fill four of the galleries, but there is a small collection of sculpture, embracing the Italian piece referred to above, an Andrea Dela Robbia of minor importance, and several remarkable works by Auguste Rodin. These last are truly unique productions. The marble "Eve" is morbid in its materialistic conception of the woman, but it is a little infracle of execution, of execution that is interpnetrated by a powerful magination. The but of St. John is one of Rodlin's most vigorous and masterly achievements, and around the marble "Belona" there hangs an indescribable early companies of that fine flo